GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1853
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2002
REGIONAL IMBALANCES
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that regional imbalances due to non-implementation of the Plan programme and non-utilisation of plan outlays have added new political problem in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering the provision of Article 371 of the Constitution in such regionally imbalanced areas in the Tenth Plan Period including North Bengal of West Bengal and Eastern U.P. of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANT G. GEETE)

(a) to (c) : Regional imbalances have arisen due to inter-alia, non-implementation of Plan programmes or non-utilization of Plan outlays. The current Gadgil-Mukherjee formula for allocationof Plan funds to States, gives a high weightage to backwardness and poverty. Within the overall allocation of Normal Central Assistance, 75% is available for special problems such as regions that are relatively backward within States.